

PR#9833

STORM, DAN

9-23-2008

Page 1

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, ex rel.  
W. A. DREW EDMONDSON, in his  
capacity as ATTORNEY GENERAL  
OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA and  
OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT C. MILES TOLBERT  
in his capacity as the TRUSTEE  
FOR NATURAL RESOURCES FOR  
THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA,

Plaintiffs

vs.

05-CV-0329 GKF SAJ

TYSON FOODS, INC., TYSON  
POULTRY, INC., TYSON CHICKEN,  
INC., COBB-VANTRESS, INC.,  
AVIAGEN, INC., CAL-MAINE FOODS,  
INC., CAL-MAINE FARMS, INC.,  
CARGILL, INC., CARGILL TURKEY  
PRODUCTION, LLC, GEORGE'S, INC.,  
GEORGE'S FARMS, INC., PETERSON  
FARMS, INC., SIMMONS FOODS, INC.,  
and WILLOW BROOK FOODS, INC.,

Defendants

VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF DANIEL STORM  
Taken on Behalf of the Defendants  
On September 23, 2008, beginning at 9:16 a.m.  
In Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

APPEARANCES:

Appearing on behalf of the PLAINTIFF STATE OF  
OKLAHOMA

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Videographer: Stephen Carns  
Reported By: Becky C. Dame, CSR, RPR

PR#9833

STORM, DAN

9-23-2008

Page 206

1 A Also, too.  
2 Q All right. So 100 percent of the nonpoint  
3 source phosphorus load, the model will allocate  
4 among those four -- I call it buckets for  
5 allocation.  
6 A Right.  
7 Q Correct?  
8 A Correct.  
9 Q And it will allocate for those four  
10 buckets because you're the Wizard of Oz and you get  
11 to decide how many buckets there are; right?  
12 I'm not trying to be flippant. But you  
13 pull the levers, you get to say; correct?  
14 A Right. I'm the one that identified the  
15 primary sources and which are, you know, the minor  
16 sources.  
17 Q Okay. So if we both agree that dirt roads  
18 in the watershed are a source of nonpoint source  
19 phosphorus contamination into the streams, we do  
20 agree on that; right?  
21 A Sure. Area source.  
22 Q Okay. Now, if there's not a bucket  
23 labeled "Dirt roads," then the real world phosphorus  
24 that you measure out there will get allocated to one  
25 of the four buckets you did put a label on; correct?

Page 207

1 A Correct. And we assume that it would be  
2 uniformly applied across all those categories,  
3 proportionately.  
4 Q Okay. But the dirt road phosphorus,  
5 somehow it's going to get allocated to litter, soil  
6 STP, background, and grazing; correct?  
7 A That's correct, yep.  
8 Q Okay. If --  
9 MR. McDANIEL: I think I'm done. I pass  
10 the witness.  
11 Thank you.  
12 MR. GEORGE: Theresa, do you have  
13 questions?  
14 MS. HILL: No. Go ahead.  
15 MR. GEORGE: Let's go off the record for  
16 just a second.  
17 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record 4:14.  
18 (Off the record.)  
19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Okay. We're going back  
20 on the record. It's 4:21.  
21 DIRECT EXAMINATION  
22 BY MR. GEORGE:  
23 Q Dr. Storm, my name is Robert George. I  
24 represent Tyson Foods in this lawsuit.  
25 You are a professor; is that right?

Page 208

1 A Yes.  
2 Q And do you actually have teaching  
3 responsibilities at Oklahoma State?  
4 A Yes.  
5 Q Okay. I'm going to ask you to be a  
6 professor with me for a moment and educate me,  
7 because, candidly, there are a lot of things about  
8 which you do that I don't fully understand.  
9 A Sure.  
10 Q So if you'll be patient with me, I'll  
11 appreciate it.  
12 On Exhibit 1, which is your 2006 modeling  
13 report for ODEQ, on Page 1, you describe the model  
14 that you use to estimate the relative contribution  
15 of various land uses across the Illinois River  
16 watershed as a basin scale model.  
17 Do you see that?  
18 A Yes. Uh-huh.  
19 Q What does that mean?  
20 A So that means it takes into account upland  
21 areas as well as some of the processes occurring in  
22 the streams and rivers.  
23 Q Why did you use a basin scale model in  
24 your 2006 modeling for DEQ?  
25 A Because some of the in-stream processes

Page 209

1 are significant. If they were insignificant, then  
2 you would move to a different scale model.  
3 Q I think I heard in your earlier testimony  
4 responses to questions by Mr. Elrod that there's at  
5 least one other type of model out there that's  
6 referred to as a field scale model. Are you  
7 familiar with that term?  
8 A Uh-huh.  
9 Q And if I understand your testimony  
10 correctly, the GLEAMS model used by Dr. Engel for  
11 his work in this lawsuit is a field scale model; is  
12 that right?  
13 A That's my understanding at least.  
14 Q Okay. Why do we need both field scale  
15 models and basin models? Do they serve different  
16 purposes?  
17 A Sure. And, I mean, my understanding, too,  
18 is the stuff that Dr. Engel did, he accounted for  
19 his -- the in-stream process out separate, so it's  
20 not as though those processes weren't accounted for.  
21 All right?  
22 The reason, though, for field scale models  
23 is that, depending upon the model itself, you may be  
24 able to better account for different types of  
25 management in more detail.

PR#9833

STORM, DAN

9-23-2008

Page 246

1 to meeting the water quality standards for  
 2 phosphorus in the Illinois River watershed; correct?  
 3 A For the river, yes, in Baron Fork.  
 4 Q And your 2006 modeling work done for ODEQ,  
 5 outside of the context of this litigation, you  
 6 concluded that the amount of litter applications in  
 7 the watershed would have little, if any, effect on  
 8 meeting the water quality standard for the rivers;  
 9 correct?  
 10 A Correct.  
 11 Q In your 2006 modeling work done for ODEQ,  
 12 outside the context of this litigation, you  
 13 concluded that applications of poultry litter were  
 14 responsible for approximately 15 percent of the  
 15 total annual phosphorus level reaching Lake  
 16 Tenkiller; correct?  
 17 A Correct.  
 18 Q And I think from the conversation you had  
 19 with Mr. Elrod earlier, we agree that your 2006  
 20 modeling work done for ODEQ, outside the context of  
 21 this litigation, allows you to conclude that  
 22 approximately 21 percent of the phosphorus load to  
 23 Lake Tenkiller was attributable to cattle, based  
 24 upon your results?  
 25 A Yes.

Page 247

1 Q Look at Page 63 of your report, Dr. Storm.  
 2 Actually, Page 62. I apologize.  
 3 A Now that makes sense.  
 4 Q You discussed with Mr. McDaniel earlier  
 5 the 75 percent reduction goal established by ODEQ  
 6 for your work?  
 7 A Yes, sir.  
 8 Q And in the paragraph next to the last --  
 9 on Page 62, you talk about what is necessary to  
 10 reach that phosphorus reduction goal.  
 11 A That's 62 on mine.  
 12 MR. NANCE: That's Engel's.  
 13 THE WITNESS: Boy, we would have had a  
 14 pretty good discussion there, wouldn't we?  
 15 BY MR. GEORGE:  
 16 Q Yes, it would have been.  
 17 A What are you talking about?  
 18 Okay. 62 of my report.  
 19 Q Correct.  
 20 A Okay.  
 21 Q You see the first sentence in the next to  
 22 the last paragraph that begins with "Our model  
 23 predicts the only way to reach the 75 percent  
 24 reduction"?  
 25 A Uh-huh.

Page 248

1 Q There's a reference there to converting  
 2 some pasture to forest as a change that your model  
 3 indicated would be necessary to reach the water  
 4 quality standard or goal established by the DEQ.  
 5 Do you see that?  
 6 A Yes.  
 7 Q What is that? What does that mean in the  
 8 real world?  
 9 A That means you would reduce the  
 10 agricultural activity that was occurring in the  
 11 basin, so you physically plant trees and existing  
 12 pasture.  
 13 Q All right. That's what I thought it  
 14 meant, and I just wanted to make sure.  
 15 A Uh-huh.  
 16 Q So one of the conditions that you  
 17 evaluated or changes in the watershed that you  
 18 evaluated to improve phosphorus levels was the  
 19 reforestation of the watershed; correct?  
 20 A Correct.  
 21 Q And in order to meet the 75 percent  
 22 reduction goal, you determined that there would be  
 23 some reforestation required in order to bring the  
 24 water quality into compliance with that goal;  
 25 correct?

Page 249

1 A As one scenario, yes.  
 2 Q All right. Let's look at this from the  
 3 inverse for a moment.  
 4 If -- if planting trees improves or  
 5 reduces phosphorus levels, do you agree with me that  
 6 the removal of trees or deforestation contributes to  
 7 the degradation of water in the watershed in terms  
 8 of increased phosphorus levels?  
 9 A Generally speaking, that would be correct.  
 10 Q Since 1954, Dr. Storm, has there been --  
 11 let me back up.  
 12 1954 was when the dam was created, I  
 13 believe, in Lake Tenkiller.  
 14 A Okay.  
 15 Q Since 1954, has there been substantial  
 16 deforestation in the watershed?  
 17 A I can neither confirm or deny that.  
 18 Actually, I don't know the degree of deforestation.  
 19 Q Well, you've spent some time in the  
 20 watershed over the last couple of decades; is that  
 21 right?  
 22 A Right.  
 23 Q And you're familiar with the growth of the  
 24 urban areas in northwest Arkansas?  
 25 A Uh-huh. Correct.